## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 IO-13 /073 W

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O R 260929Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1332

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PGOV WB GW GE FR US UK UR

SUBJECT: ALLIED PROTEST OF GDR INTERRUPTION OF

TRAVEL TO BERLIN

REFS: (A) BONN 14185; (B) BONN 14170; (C) STATE 210504;

- (D) BONN 14136; (E) STATE 209296; (F) BONN 14057;
- (G) STATE 206862; (H) BONN 13755

BEGIN SUMMARY. LONDON HAS REQUESTED ANOTHER MODIFICATION IN THE WORDING OF THE DRAFT ALLIED DEMARCHE TO THE SOVIETS. WHILE THE CHANGE WOULD SOMEWHAT WEAKEN THE PROTEST, IT IS NOT SIGNIFICANT ENOUGH TO NECESSITATE FURTHER DELAY IN AGREEMENT ON THE TEXT. IF, THEREFORE, THE FRENCH RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE MAKE AGREEMENT POSSIBLE, US REP WILL ACCEPT THE PROPOSED BRITISH CHANGE UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY. END SUMMARY.

1. PROLONGED DELAY IN AGREEMENT ON THE TEXT OF AN CONFIDENTIAL

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ALLIED PROTEST OVER THE AUGUST 13 TRANSIT STOPPAGES

HAS GIVEN LONDON AN OPPORTUNITY TO REOPEN THE WORDING OF THE TEXT. THE UK BONN GROUP REP (CARTER) INFORMS US HE HAS RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS CALLING FOR A REVISION OF THE FINAL SENTENCE OF THE FIRST OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF THE DRAFT DEMARCHE, TO MAKE IT READ AS FOLLOWS:

"IT APPEARS THAT THESE ACTIONS BY THE GDR AUTHORITIES WERE MOTIVATED BY A DISLIKE OF THE ACTIVITIES IN WHICH THE TRAVELERS INTENDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WSB."

2. THE WORDING OF THIS SENTENCE HAS GONE THROUGH SEVERAL STAGES, REFLECTING US AND FRG INSISTENCE ON A CLEAR-CUT STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE GDR DENIAL OF TRANSIT TO THE BUSLOADS OF STERNFAHRT PARTICIPANTS, AND THE BRITISH DESIRE TO BUY SOME INSURANCE BY LEAVING OPEN THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE GDR WILL PRESENT CONVINCING EVIDENCE TO JUSTIFY THEIR ACTIONS. THE FRENCH, MEANWHILE, HAVE NOT ACCEPTED THE SENTENCE AT ALL (REF D).

## 3. TO RECAPITULATE:

A. IN THE BONN GROUP AD REF DRAFT OF AUGUST 17 (REF H, APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN REF G) THE SENTENCE IN QUESTION READ: "IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THESE ACTIONS BY THE GDR AUTHORITIES WERE MOTIVATED BY A DESIRE TO PREVENT TRAVELERS FROM PARTICIPATING IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES IN THE WSB."

B. ON AUGUST 23, CARTER REPORTED THAT LONDON WANTED TO DELETE "OBVIOUS" AND TO STATE THAT THE GDR AUTHORITIES "APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN MOTIVATED," ETC. (REF F). FRG AND US REPS ARGUED AGAINST SUCH QUALIFIED LANGUAGE, AND CARTER FINALLY AGREED ON AN AD REF BASIS TO THE REVISED WORDING REPORTED IN REF (F): "THERE IS AMPLE EVIDENCE THAT THESE ACTIONS BY THE GDR AUTHORITIES WERE MOTIVATED BY A DISLIKE OF THE ACTIVITIES IN WHICH THE TRAVELERS INTENDED TO PARTICI-

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O R 260929Z AUG 76 FM AMEMBASSY BONN TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1333 INFO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY BERLIN AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY MOSCOW AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PATE IN THE WSB." THIS TEXT WAS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN REF (E).

- C. ON AUGUST 24, CARTER REPORTED LONDON'S DESIRE FOR CERTAIN CHANGES IN THE WORDING OF PARAGRAPH B OF THE AUGUST 23 TEXT (REF D), BUT HE (AND WE) ASSUMED LONDON HAD APPROVED THE REVISED WORDING OF PARA A.
- D. LATE ON AUGUST 25, THE UK EMBASSY RECEIVED NEW INSTRUCTIONS STATING THAT LONDON AGAIN INSISTED ON CHANGING "THERE IS AMPLE EVIDENCE" TO READ "IT APPEARS."
- 4. THESE NEW BRITISH INSTRUCTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN PUT TO A FULL BONN GROUP MEETING, AND NO MEETING IS SCHEDULED UNTIL THE FRENCH REP HEARS SOMETHING FROM PARIS. CARTER HAS, HOWEVER, INFORMED EACH OF THE BONN GROUP REPS OF HIS INSTRUCTIONS ON A BILATERAL BASIS. CONFIDENTIAL

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5. EMBASSY STILL BELIEVES THAT THE QUALIFIED WORDING THAT LONDON PREFERS UNNECESSARILY WEAKENS THE TEXT. WE DO NOT, HOWEVER, CONSIDER IT SO BAD AS TO NECESSITATE INSISTING THAT CARTER GO BACK TO LONDON ONCE MORE. IF, THEREFORE, THE FRENCH RECEIVE AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT THIS SENTENCE AND THIS RELATIVELY MINOR CHANGE OF WORDING IS THE ONLY ELEMENT HOLDING UP AGREEMENT ON A FINAL TEXT, US REP WILL AGREE TO IT, UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY BY THE DEPARTMENT ON AN URGENT BASIS.

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